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IOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

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Professor Konrad Krauskopf Department of Geology Stanford University Stanford, California 94305-2115

Dear Konrad:

Please let me applaud your comment on HLW disposal (Science 9/14). It resonates with my own long held views (I can't locate what I may have written some time ago.)

I understand the desire to file and forget such dangerous materials - short of injection into subduction zones I foresee no technology reliable enough for that. So I would opt for dynamic maintenance. I'd want to be sure we can reaccess storage sites and fix problems if they should arise; and use more advanced disposal technologies when they become available. Fears of neglect are over-shadowed in my mind by fear of active abuse of nuclear technology in other realms.

Is the Yucca mountain site underground? Wouldn't a safer location be tunnels in the mountain well above ground water levels?

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

I sit on the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board and P.S. expect to learn much more about this issue.

JL:cet